



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's December 1 Hog & Pig Inventory

HARRISBURG, PA, January 3, 2011 - - There were 1,110,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on December 1, 2010, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This estimated inventory was 30,000 head less than both the previous year's inventory and the September 1 inventory.

Market hog inventory, at 1,010,000 head, decreased 25,000 head since September and was down 30,000 head from December 2009; while the breeding herd inventory, at 100,000 head was down 5,000 head from September and unchanged from a year ago. The September-November 2010 pig crop totaled 485,000 head, up 30,000 head from the same period a year ago. There were 48,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, 2,000 less than the previous quarter, but 2,000 more than the previous year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter this quarter was 10.10, up from 9.5 pigs per litter the previous quarter, and up from the 9.90 pigs per litter average from a year ago.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 45,000 sows farrow during the December 2010-February 2011 quarter, 2,000 less than actually farrowed during the same period in 2010; and 48,000 for the March - May 2011 quarter, down 1,000 from the number of sows that actually farrowed during that time in 2010.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2010, was 64.3 million head. This was down 1 percent from December 1, 2009, and down 2 percent from September 1, 2010. Breeding inventory, at 5.78 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, but up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 58.5 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2010 U.S. pig crop, at 28.2 million head, was down slightly from 2009. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.89 for the September-November 2010 period, compared to 9.70 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2010-February 2011 quarter, down 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the December 2009-February 2010 quarter, and down 5 percent from the December 2008-February 2009 quarter. Intended farrowings for March-May 2011, at 2.86 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2010 and down 5 percent from 2009.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 45 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 44 percent last year.

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